

Custer County Resource Advisory Meeting - May 13, 2009

Meeting called to order by Mike Chase, Committee Chairman at 5:30 PM

Roll Call-Attendees:

Category I

Mike Chase
Paul LeClair
Don Gifford
Dick Kessler

Category II

Doris McDill
Dorothea Edgington
Rex Harris
Reed Haug

Category III

John Culberson
Ramona Flaig-Bradeen
Sandra McFarland

Forest Service

Lynn Kolund-District Ranger
Cathy Rosane-Administrative Coordinator
Mike Erk-Rangeland Management Specialist-NNF

Public

Terry Reetz
Brenda Coy-CSP
Gary Brundige-CSP

Absent

Category I

Mike Carter

Category II

David Beroza-Resigned effective 05/04/2009 due to current employment, location, and other personal commitments.

Category III

Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy

Review of Minutes from April 7, 2009 Meeting

Motion to Approve: Don Gifford

Second: Ramona Bradeen

Decision: Minutes of April 7, 2009 approved

Old Business-Monitoring

Gary Brundige, Custer State Park (CSP) presented narrative and pictorial final monitoring reports for three projects:

2008-CSP Water Development Project-\$15,000.00

Objectives have been met by the creation of dispersed, dependable water resources for elk and other wildlife along the eastern and southern slopes of CSP. Increased water resources have resulted in reduction of localized immigration of elk and other big game onto private lands adjacent to CSP, increasing landowner tolerance for area wildlife. Wildlife carrying capacity and improved range conditions are occurring by the distribution of forage utilization more evenly across the landscape.

2007-CSP Sunday Gulch Project-\$22,000.00

The primary focus of this project is along the section of the Sunday Gulch Trail below Sylvan Lake, descending along the bottom draw. Concrete steps and railing damaged by ice flows in the past were repaired or replaced. The installation of a sound railing and concrete stair system will keep hikers on the path protecting sensitive species and rare plants in the area and allow safe passage. Sections of the trail surface have also been restored through the use of native materials.

2007-CSP Trail #9 South-\$22,023.00

The completion of this project focused on the section of Trail #9 from the Sylvan Lake day use area to just outside of the wilderness boundary. Water bars were installed and road bed was reshaped to accommodate access by search and rescue and to allow safe passage by thousands of visitors annually.

Brenda Coy, CSP Rangeland Management Conservation Foreman presented narrative and pictorial final monitoring report for the 2007-CSP Noxious Weed Management Project-\$20,000.00.

This project facilitates the control of noxious weeds in areas of CSP adjacent to National Forest Land, specifically along Flynn Creek. Approximately 65 releases of Gall flies and stem weevils were placed in eleven appropriate sites within the project area. At the time of final inspection in the fall, every site had the presence of galls.

Status of Projects Approved-04/27/2009

Discussion:

Craig Bobzien, Forest Supervisor approved the following projects submitted by the RAC in the amount of \$20,325.00:

Western Dakota 4H Camp Association-\$4,000.00

Water for Wildlife-FS-\$8,125.00

Custer County Conservation District-Noxious Weed Control-\$5,000.00

Custer County Conservation District Biological Weed Control-\$3,200.00

After a review of the Title II Law the Forest Service determined that the following projects did not meet the requirements of the title and were not approved by the Forest Supervisor.

Custer County Fairgrounds Improvement-\$23,195.00

Kids in the Woods-Custer County Conservation District-\$15,900.00

These actions result in a balance of \$61,675.00 in Title II funds currently available for expenditure in 2009.

Motion to advertise for additional projects: Paul LeClair

Second: John Culberson.

Decision: unanimous approval to advertise for additional projects in the May 20th issue of the Custer County Chronicle.

David Beroza has tendered his resignation as a Category II committee member.

Motion to advertise for a new Category II Committee member and three alternate members: Paul LeClair

Second: John Culberson.

Decision: unanimous approval to advertise for the aforementioned committee members in the May 20th issue of the Custer County Chronicle.

New Business

New Project Proposals

Brenda Coy-Custer State Park: “87 South Weed Control Project”-\$20,000.00

A noxious weed control project planned on state land near the Black Hills National Forest, site affected by both the 1990 Cicero Peak fire and the 2007 4-Mile fire. Weed species targeted are Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, Hounds-Tongue, Common Mullein and Spotted Knapweed. Total project cost is estimated at \$82,000.00, including a \$20,000.00 funding request from the Custer County RAC.

Motion to approve the “87 South Weed Control Project”: Rex Harris

Second: Sandra McFarland.

Unanimous approval: for submittal to the Forest Service for Review/Approval.

Mike Erk-Fall River Ranger District, NNF: “Invasive Weed-Control-French Creek Drainage Project” - \$12,480.00

Conveyance of RAC funds in the amount of \$12,480.00, to Custer County Weed Board to compliment control and inventory of Canada Thistle and Salt Cedar in the lower reaches of the French Creek drainage, along the Cheyenne River in eastern Custer County.

Motion to approve “Invasive Weed-Control French Creek Drainage Project”: Mike Chase

Second: Sandra McFarland.

Unanimous approval: for submittal to the Forest Service for Review/Approval.

Mike Erk-Fall River Ranger District, NNF: “Restoration of Wetland Habitat Project” - \$7,493.00

Request for RAC funds in the amount of \$7,493.00 to restore wetland habitat and improve upland habitat on the Buffalo Gap National Grassland.

Motion to approve the “Restoration of Wetland Habitat Project”: Don Gifford

Second: John Culberson.

Abstain: Travis Bies

Motion carried to approve: for submittal to the Forest Service for Review/Approval.

Next RAC meeting scheduled for June 24, 2009 at 5:30 pm, Forest Supervisors Office in Custer, SD.

Motion to Adjourn-Paul LeClair

Second-Reed Haug

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm.